

## The pudovik reaction catalyzed by tertiary phosphines

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### Abstract

© 2016 Bentham Science Publishers. Conjugate addition of dialkyl phosphites and ethyl phenylphosphinate to electron-deficient alkenes containing ester, nitrile or amide group under PBu<sub>3</sub> catalysis afforded corresponding phosphonates and phosphinates in high yields within short reaction times. Under the optimized conditions developed, the chemistry was free from side reactions involving competitive phosphine-catalyzed dimerization of the activated alkene. Long chain alkyl groups in the phosphite were well tolerated in this transformation. The catalytic activity of PBu<sub>3</sub> was far superior to that of tertiary amines. High efficiency, mild reaction conditions, and ease of the catalyst recovery make the proposed procedure competitive with the classical base-promoted reaction.

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### Keywords

Alkyl H-phosphinates, Dialkyl phosphites, Phospha-Michael addition, Phosphine-catalyzed reactions, Phosphonium zwitterions, X-ray analysis